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NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)

Community Access Program (C@P)

Eight of AVRL's 11 branches have offered computer training programs for the public from September until the end of March. The programs have consisted of one-on-one tutorials, after school computer programs and topic specific workshops. Spring 2003 will see AVRL extend the program to all 11 branches for a six month period.

Smart Libraries Project

The second year of the Smart Libraries funding is coming to a close. During 2003/04, which is the last year of the project, AVRL will look at its continued sustainability. Changes to the site, made in response to usage statistics, include discontinuing the seniors portion and focusing on the kids and teens section.

The web site was promoted by a two page spread in the February 25 issue of *The Regional Magazine*, an insert which can be found in all Annapolis Valley newspapers.

Branch Services

AVRL celebrated *Family Literacy Day* on January 27 by hosting a display, in partnership with the Annapolis County Learning Network, at the Greenwood Mall. Associated library programs on *Family Literacy Day* and during that week, took place in individual branches.

An evening program called *Meet with a Reading Specialist* was recently held by AVRL. Parents were invited to drop by and talk with reading specialist Jane Power-Grimm, who offered tips on how to help children become better readers.

On February 27, AVRL invited everyone to *Join Us For Coffee*. AVRL's Sherie Keans was on hand to promote talking books and other special needs services.

The Middleton Library has offered a series of pre-school story and craft sessions, thanks to past summer employee

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Shelley Lincoln. Ongoing preschool story times continue to be offered at Kentville, Wolfville and Windsor.

The Circle of Readers Book Group is organized by Kentville Library staff and meets once a month at the Kentville Branch. This is an adult group that reads and discusses a new title each month.

At the Windsor Library, the *Hackmatack Book Club* is under way. This is an eight week program of fun activities and discussion where children in grades 4 to 6 will help pick the winners of the *Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award*.

African Heritage Month was promoted in all AVRL libraries through special booklists and displays. March 5 featured presentation of the video *Rose Fortune: rhythm stick to freedom* at the Annapolis Royal Library. Rose Fortune was the daughter of Black Loyalist refugees. She became an entrepreneur in the Town of Annapolis Royal in the late 1700s, transporting goods to and from the ships at the town wharf.

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL)

CBRL's March Break programs have been very popular in the past. This year's line-up generated a lot of interest and each session was filled to capacity. Sessions were held all week from Tuesday to Friday and the kids had a great time. Ron Evely gave Tuesday's program -- Cartooning. With pencils, sheets of paper and erasers, participants were given instructions and tips for drawing figures and lessons in caricature.

Jokers Wild Entertainment, which is comprised of a magician and his two side-kicks, entertained on Wednesday. As one child gleefully whispered to his friend -"he looks like Mr. Bean!" The Wednesday's session was a great hit and the afternoon antics had the kids smiling for the full hour.

The magician from *Jokers Wild Entertainment* performing for the children during March Break.

Staff conducted Thursday's *Dreaming of Spring Mural*. CBRL provided the feathers, the crayons, the glitter, etc. and the kids provided the artistic talent.

CBRL's last March Break session was conducted by local theatre personality Brain Gallivan. Brain has an amazing way with children, and before the hour was over even the shyest kids were volunteering to participate in the next game.

Colchester-East Hants Regional Library (CEHRL)

Baby, Me and Mother Goose

It's never too early to start on the road to literacy. Partnering with Maggie's Place, a family resource centre in Truro, the Library has been offering *Baby, Me and Mother Goose* to infants and their parents and caregivers since last September. At each 25 to 30 - minute session, participants enjoy rhymes, songs, finger plays and a story, followed by a nutritious snack, playtime for the children and social time for the adults. The popular program has been held in the Truro Library, Maggie's Place and will soon visit the Cedarstone Enhanced Care facility to encourage participation by both the very young and the very old.

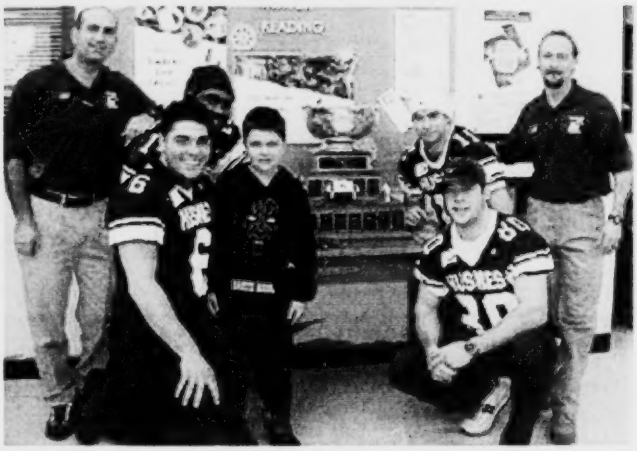
The Vanier Cup Comes to Truro!

The Vanier Cup, the championship cup of Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Football, came to CEHRL's Truro Library on Saturday morning, March 8. As part of the Library's *Adopt-a-Library Literacy Program*, two coaches and four members of the Saint Mary's Huskies (SMU), the 2002 champions, brought the coveted cup and talked to young people about the importance of reading and education.

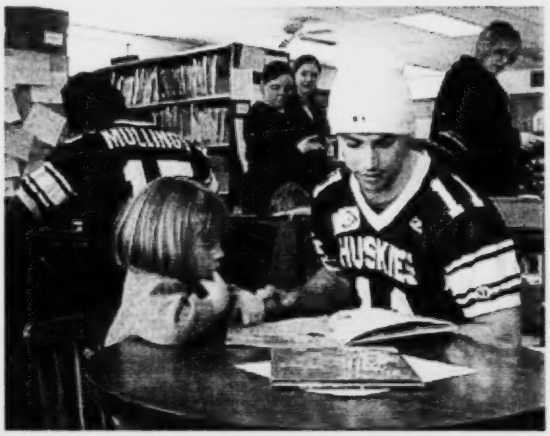
As the morning progressed, two of the players coloured and traded crayons with pre-schoolers, another read a picture book out loud and the team quarterback showed the winning game on the SMU web site.

Posters of the championship team, signed by the visiting players, were a popular item with youngsters and fathers too! All who dropped in were encouraged to fill out a ballot for a chance to win a commemorative baby football signed by the team.

SMU quarterback Steve Panella congratulates Will, a 9-year-old library patron, who was the happy winner of the special football.



Left to right: SMU coach Steve Sumarah, Steve Panella, Les Mullings, a young CEHRL patron, Derek Watson, Paul Fleming and coach Scott Annand with the Vanier Cup at the Truro Library.

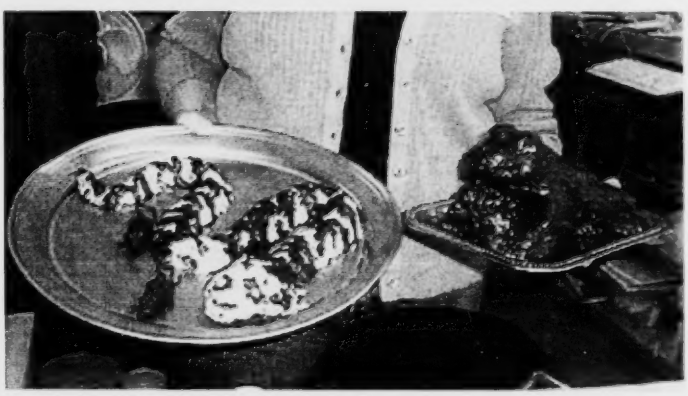


SMU Huskie Derek Watson reads aloud to Sarah, a young Truro Library patron.

Delighted with the event, Youth Services Administrator Lynda Marsh told the team members during their pizza break that she would hire them any time to work with young people!

Cumberland Regional Library (CURL)

March Break was a busy time at CURL with lots of fun events for all ages. The Springhill Library hosted a very successful Harry Potter Party featuring a magic show, scavenger hunt and lots of treats to eat including snakes and toads!



Springhill Branch Assistant Jo-Ann Potter displays food from the Harry Potter Party!

The Amherst Library offered an activity every day during March Break including Survivor Games, Science Fun, Bead Buddies, Harry Potter Trivia Games and Stories 'n Stuff, while other branches offered story hours with crafts and activities

throughout the week.

After a month of meetings, the *Hackmatack Club* wrapped up and participants are busily reading short-listed books to decide which one is the best. Assistant Librarian Beth Clinton spoke to students at Amherst Regional High School for *Freedom to Read Week* about the importance of intellectual freedom and highlighted books that had been challenged in the past.

CURL was the recipient of a C@P sustainability grant and staff are busy ordering new equipment to replace outdated workstations and software.

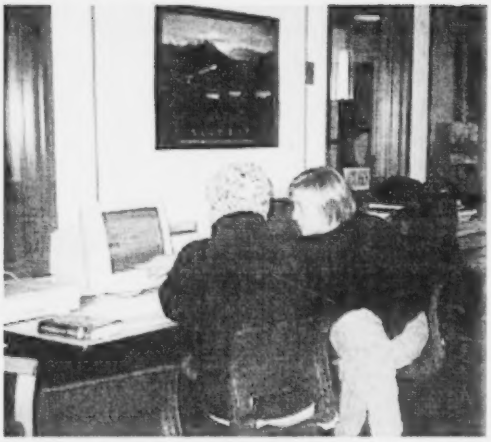
Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL)

The second annual *Library Card Month* was launched on March 1 at the Sobey's store in Port Hawkesbury. Shoppers were treated to a slice of cake, compliments of the Sobey's bakery, and a chance to *get carded!* Throughout the month, ECRL staff promoted the campaign at its branches and Links sites, with a travelling display set up in various public locations as well.

Local reporter Cindy Britten gets a story from ECRL's Acting CEO Dave Cumby, and a library card at the *Library Card Month* launch at Sobey's in Port Hawkesbury.

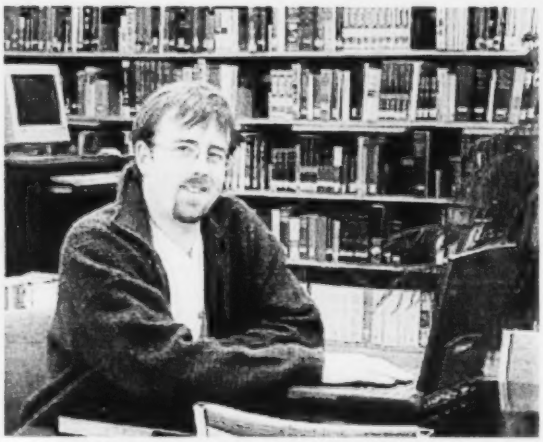
Anne LeBlanc, Library Assistant at the Margaree Forks Branch, presents 3 year-old Ethan Jacquard with his first library card.

The virtual library is getting a new look, thanks to ECRL librarians Dave Cumby, Mary Landry and Trish McCormick, along with technician James Cameron. Through James' one year HRDC contract, he has provided computer technical support and web page design expertise. Input is also being obtained from other staff members with a spring roll out date in the works. Online users will see improvements to ECRL's home page with enhancements to the design/graphics and the layout of the site. Training sessions on the use of the Virtual Library are continuing at library branches, Libr@ry Link sites and with literacy organizations within the coverage area.



Gina Tagliapietra, trainer for the *People at the Library* (P@L) project, shares her expertise with a patron at the Libr@ry Links site at Whycocomagh Education Centre.

James Cameron updates ECRL's web page.



Halifax Regional Library (HRL)

HRL's IT Learning Centres - Providing a Service for Non-Profits

HRL is offering an opportunity for non-profit groups looking for a way to provide IT training to their staff. With three Information Technology Learning Centres located at the Alderney Gate, Keshen Goodman and Sackville branches, HRL is offering this service free to non-profits. The three branches provide an environment for teaching everything from basic computer and job search skills, to how to use e-mail or the Internet. The library facilities and the services of a trainer are also available for groups to get together to develop websites, create newsletters or prepare for fundraisers.

Homework Help On E-Branch

HRL's *Homework Help* pilot, in place since fall 2002, has been a popular service with HRM kids. The program, which provides a Reference service over the Net, received in excess of 100 questions in February. HRL staff continue to develop the pilot, and to date all feedback has been positive.

Tantallon Begins Search Station Pilot Project

In anticipation of HRL's new web catalogue installation taking place this spring, the Tantallon Library has been chosen as a pilot site for testing the new search stations. The search stations are computers which provide access to the catalogue, online databases, e-branch(Library website) and the Internet. The pilot, which began March 25, will look at customer use patterns in order to develop a system wide model. PC installation at all 14 HRL branches will be completed by summers' end.

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL)

My Library Drawing Contest

During March Break, PARL tried a new program for its young patrons, *My Library Drawing Contest*. The rules called for entrants to draw a picture of the interior or exterior of their local library and submit it to their respective branch for judging. The contest was received favourably at all PARL branches, with an average of 25 entrants per branch. On the last day of March Break, branch staff choose the winners, who received ten books courtesy of the *Adopt A Library Literacy Program*. During the contest, branches displayed the artwork on the walls and in display cases, much to the delight of the young artists.

One of the winning entries in the *My Library Drawing Contest*, drawn by New Glasgow Library patron 9 year-old Carla Halfpenny.

Athletes for Literacy Program

The *Athletes for Literacy Program*, which began in the fall of 2001, continues to attract the interest of PARL's young, sport minded readers. The reading incentive program offers patrons a chance to win collectable sports memorabilia in the form of hockey cards, pucks and posters signed by National Hockey League (NHL) personalities. There is a monthly draw and patrons receive one ballot for every five books they read. First, second and third place winners are then awarded a signed puck, player card and poster respectively - a set of which are on display at each of PARL's branches. During the NHL playoffs last year, two hockey sticks were signed by past and present Pictou County NHL players Lowell MacDonald, Jon Sim and Colin White. The hockey sticks will be awarded in June.

PARL patron Rory MacNeil of the River John Library shows off his prize as winner of the *Athletes for Literacy Program* sports memorabilia draw.

Regional Newsletter for Branch Staff

PARL is currently experimenting with compiling a staff newsletter to be printed every second month. *Parl-ez vous* is to provide a forum for sharing staff events and branch news, and ultimately creating a more familiar atmosphere within PARL. With one edition behind her, first time editor Shelly MacLean, PARL's Trenton branch Assistant, has found response so far to be excellent. Content is collected from the branches as submitted by staff, with stories typically covering births, trips to distant countries, personnel profiles and branch events. Still in the developmental stages, it is hoped the newsletter becomes a permanent feature.

Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL)

Library Posters Link Reading To Sports

Fresh from the printers, WCRL's new series of posters spotlighting players from the Yarmouth Motor Mart Mariners Junior A Hockey franchise, have proven to be a big hit. The posters, featuring local hockey stars in street clothes with books under their arms, arrived in time to appear in a special online March Break contest run on WCRL's web site's kids page. The message is simple: *Read – Exercise your mind*. In the background is an action hockey photo. The posters are being distributed to schools throughout the region, in conjunction with presentations being given to Grade 10 students to promote WCRL's new web page feature *Study Smart*. As well as being placed in all branch libraries, there are plans to circulate them throughout the region in key community centres.

The posters are part of a reading awareness campaign launched by WCRL in cooperation with the Yarmouth Motor Mart Mariners. *Read - Exercise your Mind,* is aimed at teenagers and pre-teens. The campaign is seeking to address declines in borrowing rates when children reach adolescence. At WCRL the decline is especially noticeable in young boys, which is why the Mariners made a logical partner for the campaign. Since the move of the franchise to the Mariners Centre in Yarmouth, the team has attracted a legion of fans with the players becoming local heroes.

The Mariners will hold a hockey camp in Yarmouth this summer. The Library is now exploring ways to invite players who will be staffing the camp, to participate in the Library's Summer Reading Program.

Library Express

During the week of March 9, 18,000 brochures promoting WCRL's new *Library Express* services were distributed throughout Yarmouth, Shelburne and Digby counties. The new service, which provides online borrowers virtually the same services they would receive by coming into a library branch, was launched in the Spring of 2002. The campaign's slogan is *Your library, your time, your way*. Although designed to be used via the Internet, the *Library Express* feature can also be accessed by phone. In the first three months, usage of the web site increased by 30 per cent. The numbers are expected to continue to grow with the distribution of the *Library Express* brochure.

Although just one of the services available online, the *Library Express* feature is perhaps the most critical in meeting the Library's mandate to serve the needs of all residents in the tri-counties. WCRL's Deputy Director Virginia Stoddard commented, "This is going to be our big push." *Library Express* is available at www.westerncounties.ca.

Library Lotto

WCRL is about to launch its second biennial Library Lotto 50/50 draw. *Lotta prizes, lotta fun, lotta money to be won* is the slogan with accompanying logo, for this year's campaign, and will run from April 1- July 1. The campaign has the potential to net the Library some much needed funds. In addition to the main prize of a winning ticket, early bird prizes have also been added. These prizes, which include lobsters, art work and restaurant certificates, have been donated by businesses throughout the region. Tickets will be sold at all branches and by staff and friends of the Library. The main draw will be held on Canada Day during *Library Report*, WCRL's regular news segment airing Tuesday on Radio CJLS. The campaign is being timed to follow on the heels of the launch of a major radio public relations initiative, which began airing late in January, and is expected to give the fundraising campaign some additional bounce.

The Library Lotto is one of two major fundraisers planned for 2003 - 2004. In the Fall, WCRL will produce a calendar featuring its library branches and the communities they serve.

IT Week

WCRL plans to celebrate Canada IT Week, May 2 - 10, with a series of activities which will focus on the role IT plays in the lives of individuals, the operation of businesses and the delivery of education. Young people will also be included in the IT week activities. Library staff are coordinating plans to develop a regional cyber rally or scavenger hunt and an art awards competition that challenges junior and senior high school students to create art from dead computer parts. IT Week events will culminate on Friday, May 9 with the South West IT Expo. The Expo will be held in Yarmouth at the Burridge Campus of the Nova Scotia Community College and organizers expect to bring the region's leaders together with some of the multi-national giants in the IT industry. The Library will have a booth at the Expo and is planning to highlight its use of IT during an open house in Yarmouth and several other branches. WCRL has embraced IT in many ways, such as the development of its comprehensive web-based services. The South West Nova Community Access Society, which represents C@P sites throughout the region, is coordinating the week's events. The committee's co-chair is WCRL's Director Trudy Amirault.

March Break

March Break week saw WCRL offering programs with youth in mind. One such program held at the Gates Computer Lab at the Izaak Walton Killam Library in Yarmouth focused on a variety of desktop publishing applications. The Yarmouth program was among several offered by branches at WCRL during the busy March Break.

Grade 5 student Elizabeth Allen with a printout of a poster she created during WCRL's March Break programming at the Gates Computer Lab at the Izaak Walton Killam Library in Yarmouth.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES (SLIS)

As part of the SLIS Public Lecture Series, Richard Brown (Department of Psychology, Dalhousie University) presented a lecture entitled *The New Library of Alexandria and How I Became the Canadian Representative* on March 7, 2003. The final lecture of the 2002 - 2003 academic year was presented on March 14, 2003. Dr. Alisdair Roberts (Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University) discussed *National Security and the Hidden Architecture of Information Control*. This lecture was co-sponsored by the School of Public Administration and the Department of Political Science, Dalhousie University.

The Canadian Library Association Student Chapter held its first professional partnering dinner on March 20, 2003 at Casino Nova Scotia Hotel; further details of this event will be discussed in the next issue of *The Disseminator*.

SLIS hosted *Showcase 2003*, which featured the work of students in the MLIS programme, for members of Dalhousie University and the professional community. This year's showcase highlighted student projects completed in courses on Multimedia Systems and Digital Libraries. *Showcase*, **http://www.mgmt.dal.ca/slis/WhatsNew/showcase.03.html**, was held on Friday, April 4, 2003 at SLIS, from 12:00 - 1:30 pm.

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY NEWS

ANNOUNCEMENT: DIRECTORY OF NOVA SCOTIA LIBRARIES 2003

The 2003 edition of the *Directory of Nova Scotia Libraries* is now available. You can search this up-to-date and comprehensive listing of libraries and archival institutions online via the Provincial Library's homepage at **www.library.ns.ca** where you can access a PDF version and make your own copies. Those libraries which are either full deposit or selective deposit under the Nova Scotia Government document distribution system are eligible to receive one print copy free of charge. The PDF document is updated on an annual basis while the online web version is updated quarterly.

The *Directory of Nova Scotia Libraries* has always been an indispensable tool for interlibrary loan and reference for librarians, educators, researchers, library suppliers and the publishing world. Please send your comments and suggestions to Frank Oram at **oramfl@gov.ns.ca**.

NSCC STUDENTS VISIT PROVINCIAL LIBRARY

Nancy Hynes and Mary O'Beirne, students of NSCC's Library and Information Technology program report: "On Wednesday February 26, a group of second year students from the Library and Information Technology Program at NSCC, along with their instructor Barbara MacKenzie visited the Provincial Library. Gillian Webster facilitated the visit. Michael Colborne, Frank Oram, Bernadette Kennedy and Marged Dewar all made presentations to the students.

"The students were impressed with the size of the facility and the scope of the work carried out on behalf of so many public libraries in the province. Particularly impressive was the dubbing work done on behalf of the Department of Education by a library technician. The students found it most helpful to meet and speak with graduates of their program who now work at the Library. The visit was closed with a tour of the facility given by Gillian."

Left to right: NSSC students Nancy Hynes and Kim Arsenault, winners of the two Summer Reading Program sweatshirts!

VISIT TO SLIS MANAGEMENT CLASS

NSPL's Michael Colborne and Bernadette Kennedy recently visited SLIS, Dalhousie University, to talk with the Organizational Management and Strategy class about two innovative and collaborative cross-sectoral initiatives happening in N.S. SLIS students learned about the active role NSPL is playing in the development of the Nova Scotia Health Network (NSHN) and the Nova Scotia Digital Collections Initiative (NSDCI). Michael described the planning, development and marketing of the NSHN, a cooperative effort between public libraries, health science libraries, health related organizations, the N.S. Dept. of Education and Dalhousie University, which aims to provide good reliable health information to Nova Scotians. Bernadette gave an overview of the development of the NSDCI, a collaborative multi-agency initiative concerned with creating and providing access to Nova Scotian digital projects via the Web. Bernadette noted that future plans for the Initiative will be developed by the newly formed Steering Committee with NSPL continuing as the lead agency.

For more information on these initiatives visit their web sites at **http://www.nshealthnetwork.org/** and **http://www.library.ns.ca/services/NSDCI/index.htm**.

CULTURAL CAREER CONNECTIONS 2003

NSPL hosted a booth at the Cultural Career Connections (CCC) 2003 fair, which took place March 6, 2003, at Pier 21, Terminal Road, Halifax, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The event is organized annually by Mount Saint Vincent University, Dalhousie and St. Mary's universities, the N.S. College of Art and Design and the N.S. Community College (NSCC). The CCC brings together students and professionals to discuss careers in the culture sector.

Librarian Gillian Webster and Communications and Outreach Officer Arlene Watts staffed the NSPL booth and distributed brochures on behalf of the N.S. public librairies, the School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University and the Library and Technology program, NSCC. A number of students expressed an interest in the variety of duties performed by library personnel and possible careers in the library field.

A list of the 2003 CCC exhibitors can be found at **http://www.culturalcareerconnections.com/index_employer.html**.

A visitor to PL's booth at the CCC 2003 fair shown with Librarian Gillian Webster, on the right.

HOT TIPS & UPDATES

ANNOUNCING THE SEVENTH SUMMER INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK (UNB)

Creating Electronic Texts and Images -- a practical *hands-on* exploration of the research, preservation and pedagogical uses of electronic texts and images in the humanities, will be held August 24 - 29 at UNB, Fredericton, NB. The instructor will be David Seaman, Director, Digital Library Federation **http://www.diglib.org/dlfhomepage.htm**. The Institute is sponsored by the Electronic Text Centre at the UNB Libraries and the Department of Archives and Special Collections.

The course will centre around the creation of a set of electronic texts and digital images. It is designed primarily for librarians and archivists who are planning to develop electronic text and imaging projects, for scholars who are creating electronic texts as part of their teaching and research, and for publishers who are looking to move publications to the Web.

Course participants will learn how to create TEI encoded XML files from a selection of manuscripts from UNB's Archives and Special Collections; and then, how to turn these XML files automatically into multiple formats, including HTML, PDF and EBook. Participants will also have the opportunity to tag an EAD finding aid and explore issues in creating digital images. The work of the class will be made available on the Internet through the Electronic Text Centre at the UNB Libraries' Web Page. This year's Institute presupposes that participants have some experience with the Web and an elementary understanding of HTML.

Registration will be limited to 20. The tuition ($950 Canadian dollars) will include all course fees for the Institute, some events, nutritional breaks and lunches. Tuition does not include cost of accommodations. Course participants will be responsible for making their own reservations.

You may also obtain further information by contacting Karen Kilfillen **klk@unb.ca** or 506-453-4740. Information on prior Institutes, including comments from participants, is available at **http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/projects.html**, under the heading of Educational Initiatives.

An on-line registration form is now available, at **http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/SGML_course/Aug2003/register_2003.htm**.

NSLA/LBANS CONFERENCE 2003

The Programming Committee is pleased to announce that *Nova Scotia Libraries - Strait Ahead!* has been tentatively selected as the theme for the 2003 Fall NSLA/LBANS conference. Plans are progressing well for the joint conference set for October 24, 25 and 26 at the Dundee Resort in Richmond County, Cape Breton. Both the Programming and Local Arrangements committees met recently to plan for a conference that will interest and appeal to all members of the library community. Potential exhibitors have been contacted, sponsors are coming on board and e-mail boxes are getting busier by the day!

The theme, *Nova Scotia Libraries-Strait Ahead!* provides a wide berth for a variety of workshops and sessions. The Programming Committee is still narrowing down the list of potential speakers and sessions and are still open to suggestions. Suggested workshops can be forwarded to committee co-chairs Dave Cumby **dcumby@nsme.library.ns.ca** or Mary Landry **mlandry@nsme.library.ns.ca**.

LIBRARY SUPPORT STAFF SOAR TO GREAT HEIGHTS: HOW LIBRARY WORKERS GIVE BACK - TELECONFERENCE FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2003

The latest in the *Soaring to Excellence 2003* series of video conferences presented by College of DuPage, Illinois, was hosted by NSPL on Friday, March 21. The live broadcast featured Penny Mandziara, Youth Services, Bensenville Community Public Library and Janis Williams, Library Technical Assistant, Elmhurst College Library, who enlisted the help of a number of library workers in their area to discuss ways in which library staff enhance their skills and give back to their institutions. Suggestions for keeping up-to-date on developments in the field and for enhancing skills included taking additional courses in library and information technology, and attending conferences.

Following the televised portion, participants at NSPL had the opportunity to learn about some of the outstanding contributions being made by library staff within the Nova Scotia library community. The local panel included: Brent Robson, Information Analyst, Halifax Regional Municipality, and part-time instructor at the Nova Scotia Community College; Chris Eidt, Library Assistant, Stewart McKelvey Stirling Scales and part-time Library Technician at the N.S. Barrister's Society; Cathy d'Entremont, Special Needs Services Clerk, WCRL; and Erica Smith, Library Assistant, Capital District Health Authority, QEII Health Sciences site library. The panellists described how they contribute to their organizations, to their colleagues and their communities, and the positive affect this has on their professional and personal development. A general question and answer period between panellists and participants rounded off the session.

A dubbed taping of the telecast segment can be borrowed via ILL from the NSPL's professional collection. To search the collection, click on the NSPL link on the NcompasS page, at **http://ncompass.library.ns.ca/**.

Panellists at the March 21 *Soaring to Excellence 2003* teleconference hosted by NSPL.

ATTENTION: APLA-LIST SUBSCRIBERS

If you subscribed to the APLA - list when your e-mail address was RS6000.nshpl.library.ns.ca or office.nsh.library.ns.ca, please resubscribe. Since these e-mail addresses are no longer functional, APLA - list postings are not getting to you. If you want to resubscribe to the list, send an e-mail to LISTSERV@IS.DAL.CA (no subject line) with the message SUB APLA-LIST yourfirstname yourlastname. If you have any questions, or trouble, contact Suzanne Sexty **ssexty@mun.ca**. If you want to know more about the APLA-list, check it out at **http://www.apla.ca/**.

REFERENCE ON THE NET

Here are some more reference questions referred to the Provincial Library by the Regional Public Libraries. They were answered using resources found on the Internet.

Q. Patron wants to know how to restore family bibles which have smoke and water damage from a house fire.

A. *The Association of Specialists in Cleaning and Restoration* has a search page at **http://216.185.153.30/ascr/techsearch.cfm** where you can search their article archive. Enter *book* in the keyword search and this brings up *Research Paper on the Restoration of Books and Documents after Fires and Floods*, which gives quite a bit of information. *Resource: The Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries* has an information section on their web site at **http://www.resource.gov.uk/information/00info.asp**. From the menu on the left of this page select the sequence *Advice & Guidance>Conservation>Conservation of Books*. The article *Conservation of Books* has a section on *Disaster Recovery: Fire and Flood*. On the main page of the *Library of Congress* web site at **http://www.loc.gov/** select *Librarians & Archivists* under *Especially For ...* Then under *Library Functions* select *Preservation>Caring for Your Collections>Emergency Drying Procedures For Water Damaged Collections*.

Q. Patron wants a picture of a woman's travel outfit from the German area of Brensbach in the 1750's.

A. This is a very specific request so the best thing to do would be to find a costume museum in Germany to contact. *The Costumer's Manifesto: Costumes.org* at **http://www.costumes.org/** is an excellent site for information on costumes. Click on the *Museums* section and then *Germany* for a listing of links to German costume museums. For a general look at German dress of this period the site has a section titled *(Costume) History sorted by Period*. Click on this, then *18th Century* and among the large listing of resources there you will find *The Handbook of German Dress - 1700's Section*.

LINKed

Les Rendez-vous de la Francophonie is a celebration of French language and culture in Canada which takes place from March 7 to 23, 2003. Information about this event can be found at *Les Rendez-vous de la Francophonie* web site **http://www.rendezvousfrancophonie.com/**. To help celebrate here are some guides to French language sources on the Internet.

Branchez-Vous.com at **http://www.branchez-vous.com/reseau/** is a Montreal based portal site to more than 40 French-language North American Web sites. Sites are arranged under the categories of News, Business, Finance and Technology, Family and Leisure, Entertainment, Automotive, Shopping and Travel.

Le top 100 des sites québécois at **http://www.guide-internet.com/top100/index.htm** is part of *Le magazine Guide Internet* site. Sites are arranged in 15 categories, which are accessible through a pop-up menu.

La Bibliotheque Virtuelle, Biblioth ques publiques du Québec at **http://bpq.org/biblio_virtuelle.html** has links to sites selected by public librarians in Quebec. They are arranged in broad categories by Dewey decimal classification.

Biblioth que Virtuelle de Périodiques at **http://www.biblio.ntic.org/bouquinage.php?ct=1** has French language electronic journals arranged by the Dewey decimal classification system with links to each. To date, there are about 500 electronic magazines listed here. You can search for titles by keyword and use search limiters at the advanced search screen. This is a France-Quebec project produced by librarians.

Catalogue IRIS at **http://www.biblinat.gouv.qc.ca:6611/** is the online catalogue of the Biblioth que nationale du Québec. *BREF* at **http://bref.bnquebec.ca/scripts/minisa.dll/145/bref?DIRECTSEARCH** on the *Biblioth que nationale du Québec* site, lists French language reference sources. Sites are arranged by Dewey classification number and can be searched by keyword.

Encyclopédie Encarta (France) at **http://encarta.msn.fr/reference/** provides access to 13,000 full text articles as well as photos and other illustrations from the French version of the *Encarta Encyclopedia*. You can search by keyword or browse by category. The site also has a searchable French-English/English-French dictionary.

Web sites which were featured in previous *Linked* columns are arranged by subject category on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at http://www.library.ns.ca/services/reference/index.htm. If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at morrisc@gov.ns.ca.

WHERE THEY ARE NOW

Not too many Canadians move from the damp, relatively snow free environment of the Lower Mainland of B.C. to Ottawa in the middle of January. But Bill Mitchell has made some unusual personal and career moves in the years since leaving the former Halifax County Regional Library (in 1987) to pursue a Masters degree in Architecture from the Technical University of Nova Scotia.

The move to Ottawa in January, 2002 was to take up his current challenging position as Library Development Director for the Southern Ontario Library Service, an arms length provincial agency providing training, support and resources to the staff and library boards of the 200 library systems in southern Ontario.

Bill and his partner of 12 years, Ken, are now very happily settled in a bungalow on 11 acres of woods on the western fringe of Ottawa. As you can see in the photo, another advantage of the move to Ottawa is to be near his two daughters, Rebecca and Sarah, and grandson Jakob, all living a few hours away in Montreal.

When Bill moved to Vancouver from Halifax in 1991, he said he would never shovel snow again. Somehow, he seems to have forgotten that statement. Ottawa only has two feet of snow for about 4 months of the year, but the sun shines through the snow and cold.

While living in the Vancouver area, he worked in architecture and then, realizing that he was always happier in public libraries, worked as a Library Manager at Surrey Public Library, Director of Public Services at Fraser Valley Regional Library and as Library Director of Jefferson County Library in western Washington State. He now specializes in library facility planning.

Even after all of these years, Nova Scotia and Halifax have a warm spot in his heart, and it is nice to be able to visit friends there more often. Bill would love to hear from friends and former colleagues from Nova Scotia. Email **bmitchell@sols.org**.

Bill Mitchell with daughters Rebecca and Sarah and grandson Jakob.

Credits go to:
Nancy Hynes and Mary O'Beirne, Students, NSCC, Library and Information Technology Program
Bill Mitchell, Library Development Director for the Southern Ontario Library Service

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